September 19, 2006

Dear Member,

The undersigned organizations and individuals, concerned about immigrant, civil rights and national security, respectfully write to urge you to strongly oppose any attempts to use the appropriations process for FY 2007, including the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations bill, to attach extraneous provisions not included in the appropriations bills that House and Senate have already passed or will consider.

It is our understanding, for example, that some Members of Congress are seeking to attach complex, controversial and unrelated immigration provisions to the DHS Appropriations bill either prior to the Conference Committee's final vote or even after this vote.

We strongly oppose any attempts to impose ill-conceived measures by stealth. Any due process or enforcement-only related immigration proposals should be debated in the light of day and in the context of a Congressional debate and national dialogue on immigration reform, rather than hidden within the appropriations process. Such a flawed process will engender controversy and acrimony, and will deter, rather than facilitate, fixing our broken immigration system and securing our borders.

The FY 2007 DHS Appropriations bills passed by both Houses of Congress already provide substantial increases in border protection and security. Majority Leader Senator Bill Frist (R-TN) has acknowledged that both Houses have taken important steps in this bill toward securing America's borders. Any attempt to add controversial provisions will hold up the appropriations process.

We strongly believe that an enforcement-only approach or measures that diminish due process will not solve our nation's broken immigration system. We urge you to support comprehensive immigration reform and reject a piecemeal, enforcement-only approach to reform.

Sincerely,

Agencia ALPHA, Boston, Massachusetts
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee
American Immigration Lawyers Association
Asian American Justice Center
Asian Law Caucus, San Francisco, California
Capital Area Immigrants' Rights (C.A.I.R.) Coalition, Washington, D.C.
Center for Community Change
Center for Gender and Refugee Studies

Center for Victims of Torture

Central American Resources, Houston, Texas

Centro Presente, Boston, Massachusetts

Casa de Esperanza, Bound Brook, New Jersey

CENTRO HISPANO "Cuzcatlan," Queens, New York

Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles - CHIRLA

FIRM (the Fair Immigration Reform Movement)

Grupo Cajola, Morristown, New Jersey

Hastings College of the Law, University of California, San Francisco, California

Hate Free Zone, Seattle, Washington

Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society

Idaho Community Action Network (ICAN)

Illinois Coalition for Immigrant & Refugee Rights

Immigrant Legal Resource Center

Korean American Resource & Cultural Center (KRCC), Chicago, Illinois

Korean Resource Center (KRC), Los Angeles, California

Kurdish Human Rights Watch, Inc.

La Raza Centro Legal, Day Labor Program, San Francisco, California

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, San Francisco, California

Legal Momentum

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS)

Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA)

Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, Minneapolis

The Multiracial Activist, Alexandria, Virginia

National Capital Immigration Coalition, Washington, D.C.

National Council of La Raza

National Immigrant Solidarity Network

National Immigrant Justice Center

National Immigration Forum

National Immigration Law Center

National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC)

New York Immigration Coalition, New York, New York

Northern California Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride Coalition

Northwest Federation of Community Organizations (NWFCO)

Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center, York, Pennsylvania

Service Employees International Union (SEIU)

Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund (SALDEF)

St. Brigid's Casa Mary Johanna, Westbury NY

Tahirih Justice Center, Falls Church, Virginia

Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC)

Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

**UNITE HERE** 

Vermont Refugee Assistance, Montpelier, Vermont

Washington Defender Association's Immigration Project, Seattle Washington

Young Korean American Service Education Center (YKASEC), New York, NY

## **Individuals**

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